

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, and 13 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

embedding means for, when said detection means detects that the illegal process has been performed, embedding a visible or invisible digital watermark to said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents,

wherein, when the digital watermark is correctly embedded in the digital contents, the same digital watermark has been repetitively embedded throughout the digital contents, and

wherein said detection means extracts all of the digital watermarks embedded in the digital contents and judges that an illegal process has been performed when one or more of the extracted digital watermarks is different from the other extracted digital watermarks.

2. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for performing ~~performs~~ a filtering process.

3. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for reducing ~~reduces~~ a resolution of said digital contents.

4. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for encrypting ~~encrypts~~ said digital contents.

5. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for adding ~~adds~~ a bit string to said digital contents.

7. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for storing ~~stores~~ information concerning said digital contents.

8. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for halting ~~halts~~ the output of

said digital contents.

9. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises processing means for correcting ~~corrects~~ said digital contents and outputting ~~outputs~~ the corrected digital contents.

10. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said digital contents are image data, and said apparatus further comprises control means for correcting ~~corrects~~ colors of said image data.

11. (Original) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, to detect an illegal activity, said detection means obtains a hash value by using at least one part of said digital contents.

12. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising:
a detection step of detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of the digital contents; and

an embedding step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, embedding a visible or invisible digital watermark to said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly

embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents,

wherein, when the digital watermark is correctly embedded in the digital contents, the same digital watermark has been repetitively embedded throughout the digital contents, and

wherein said detection step comprises extracting all of the digital watermarks embedded in the digital contents and judging that an illegal process has been performed when one or more of the extracted digital watermarks is different from the other extracted digital watermarks.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

a detection step of detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

an embedding step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, embedding a visible or invisible digital watermark to said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents,

wherein, when digital watermark is correctly embedded in the digital contents, the same digital watermark has been repetitively embedded throughout the digital contents.

and

wherein said detection step extracts all of the digital watermarks embedded in the digital contents and judges that an illegal process has been performed when one or more of the extracted digital watermarks is different from the other extracted digital watermarks.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the digital watermark embedded by said embedding means indicates information concerning transmission of said digital contents.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the digital watermark embedded at said embedding step indicates information concerning transmission of said digital contents.